

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-19. (cancelled)

20. (previously presented) A method for diagnosing increased risk of preeclampsia in a subject which comprises: (a) measuring levels of placental expression of HIF-1 α in a sample from the subject; and (b) comparing the levels of expression of HIF-1 α to the levels in a subject with normal pregnancy, wherein increased levels of HIF-1 α compared to levels in a subject with a normal pregnancy indicates an increased risk of preeclampsia in the subject.

21. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the levels of placental expression of HIF-1 α are measured by detecting, directly or indirectly, the interaction of the HIF-1 α in the sample with an antibody specific for the HIF-1 α .

22. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the antibody is labeled with an enzyme, fluorescent, luminescent or radioactive material.

23. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the antibody is used in counter immuno-electrophoresis, a radioimmunoassay, radioimmunoprecipitation assay, an enzyme-linked immuno-sorbent assay (ELISA), a dot blot assay, an inhibition or competition assay or a sandwich assay.

24-25. (cancelled)

26. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the levels of placental expression of HIF-1 α are measured by detecting nucleic acid sequences encoding HIF-1 α .

27. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the nucleic acid sequences encoding HIF-1 α are detected using a nucleotide probe that hybridizes to the nucleic acid sequences.

28. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the nucleic acid sequences encoding HIF-1 α are detected by selective amplification of the nucleic acid sequences using polymerase chain reaction.

29. (previously presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein the nucleic acid sequences encoding HIF-1 α are detected by selective amplification of the nucleic acid sequences using polymerase chain reaction.

30. (previously presented) A method according to claim 20, wherein the level of placental expression of HIF-1 α is measured during the first trimester of pregnancy. 20.

(previously presented) A method for diagnosing increased risk of preeclampsia in a subject which comprises: (a) measuring levels of placental expression of HIF-1 α in a sample from the subject; and (b) comparing the levels of expression of HIF-1 α to the levels in a subject with normal pregnancy, wherein increased levels of HIF-1 α compared to levels in a subject with a normal pregnancy indicates an increased risk of preeclampsia in the subject.